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**NEWS RELEASE**

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**Utah Students Invited to Enter 2009 National Radon Poster Contest**

*Students, Parents, and Teachers Can Win Washington, D.C. Trip*

(Salt Lake City, Utah) – Utah students have an opportunity to be creative when it comes to spotlighting the dangers of indoor radon, an invisible and odorless radioactive gas, by entering a poster in a national contest that could win them a trip to Washington, D.C.

The National Safety Council, in partnership with the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, is once again sponsoring a Radon Poster Contest for children ages 9-14 enrolled in a public, private, territorial, tribal, Department of Defense or home school. Members of a sponsoring club, such as a scouting organization, 4-H, or art, computer, and science clubs are eligible. There is no entry fee, and only one entry per student is allowed. The entry deadline is **October 15, 2008**.

Poster topics must include one of the following themes:

- What is radon?
- Where does radon come from?
- How does radon get inside our homes?
- Radon can cause lung cancer!
- Test your home for radon!

Statewide winners and runners-up will be entered in the national contest. The winning posters will be unveiled at an awards ceremony in Washington, D.C. during National Radon Awareness Month, January 2009, and will be reproduced and distributed nationally. Last year, Aly Wells (age 14) from Farmington Junior High received the state's first-place award.

The national winner, a parent, and teacher (or sponsoring organization's representative) will receive an all-expense paid trip to D.C. to participate in the ceremony.

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In addition, Utah contest participants may be eligible for a cash award. The state's first-place winner will receive \$300, with \$500 awarded to his or her school or organization. Second- and third-place winners will be awarded \$100 each.

“Radon is the second leading cause of lung cancer, second only to smoking,” said John Hultquist, Radon Program manager with the Division of Radiation Control. “Testing the air you breathe in homes and schools is the best method to determine your risk from radon.”

To find out how to enter the Poster Contest, visit, [www.nsc.org/issues/radon](http://www.nsc.org/issues/radon). For more information about radon, see [www.radon.utah.gov](http://www.radon.utah.gov) or [www.epa.gov/radon](http://www.epa.gov/radon).

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